



CITY OF HAYWARD
AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE 11/09/99

AGENDA ITEM 6

WORK SESSION ITEM _____

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Director of Public Works
SUBJECT: Traffic Calming Plan for the Orchard Avenue Area

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council provide comment regarding the traffic-calming plan for the Orchard Avenue area to include:

- A "roundabout" at the intersection of Orchard Avenue and Joyce Street.
- Two "raised intersections" (one at Orchard Avenue and Muir Street, and one at Orchard Avenue and Thomas Avenue).
- A pair of "speed humps" on Thomas Avenue between Sycamore Avenue and Orchard Avenue, assuming petition requirements are met.

BACKGROUND:

On September 29, 1999, City staff held a neighborhood meeting to discuss the proposed improvements to Orchard Avenue and to Soto Road, including the Soto Road/Orchard Avenue and the Soto Road/Jackson Street intersections and a roundabout at Orchard Avenue and Joyce Street. The roundabout was proposed in response to continual complaints about speeding on Orchard Avenue. The biggest area of controversy was the concern for how to best reduce speeding. There was approximately an even split among those favoring and opposing a roundabout. However, there was general consensus in the need for an "overall" plan to slow traffic on Orchard Avenue between Soto Road and Joyce Street, as well as on Thomas Avenue. Staff committed to return with an "overall" traffic-calming plan to address those concerns.

Staff researched several potential traffic-calming strategies, including roundabouts, speed humps, chicanes, raised intersections, street narrowing, and stop signs. Staff completed an engineering analysis of these various tools for slowing traffic in this area and has developed a comprehensive traffic-calming plan (see Exhibit A) that incorporates the following elements:

- A roundabout at the intersection of Orchard Avenue and Joyce Street. Exhibit B is an illustration of the proposed roundabout.

- Two “raised intersections,” one at Orchard Avenue and Muir Street and one at Orchard Avenue and Thomas Avenue. Exhibit C is a conceptual drawing of a raised intersection.
- A pair of “speed humps” on Thomas Avenue between Sycamore Avenue and Orchard Avenue, subject to compliance with the adopted City petition requirements for speed humps.

Staff feels that this overall traffic-calming plan appropriately addresses the need to slow traffic on Orchard Avenue and responds to the concerns expressed at the September 29, 1999, meeting.

Implementation of this plan is proposed to be done in two stages. The first item of work will be installation of the roundabout, since most of the design has been completed and the work can be done partly through our upcoming handicap ramp project and partly by purchase order contract. The raised intersections require more design work in order to insure drainage and pedestrian issues are addressed. This portion is proposed to be incorporated in the approved Orchard Pavement Rehabilitation and Sidewalk Project, which actually begins at the Muir Street intersection. If the speed hump petition requirements on Thomas Avenue are met, that work could also be included in the same contract, rather than waiting for next year's speed hump contract.

A second neighborhood meeting to present the above traffic-calming plan was held Wednesday, November 3, 1999. Staff will provide a verbal report on the neighborhood meeting at the Council meeting.

SCHEDULE:

The proposed schedule for construction is as follows:

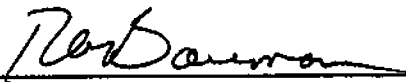
Roundabout Construction

Begin Construction	January 2000
Complete Construction	February 2000

Remaining Traffic-Calming Measures

Advertise	January 2000
Award	March 2000
Begin Construction	April 2000
Complete Construction	July 2000


Prepared by:


Robert A. Bauman, Deputy Director of Public Works

Recommended by:


Dennis L. Butler, Director of Public Works

Approved by:


Jesús Armas, City Manager

Attachments:	Exhibit A	Proposed location of traffic calming strategies
	Exhibit B	Illustration of proposed roundabout
	Exhibit C	Conceptual Illustration of a raised intersection

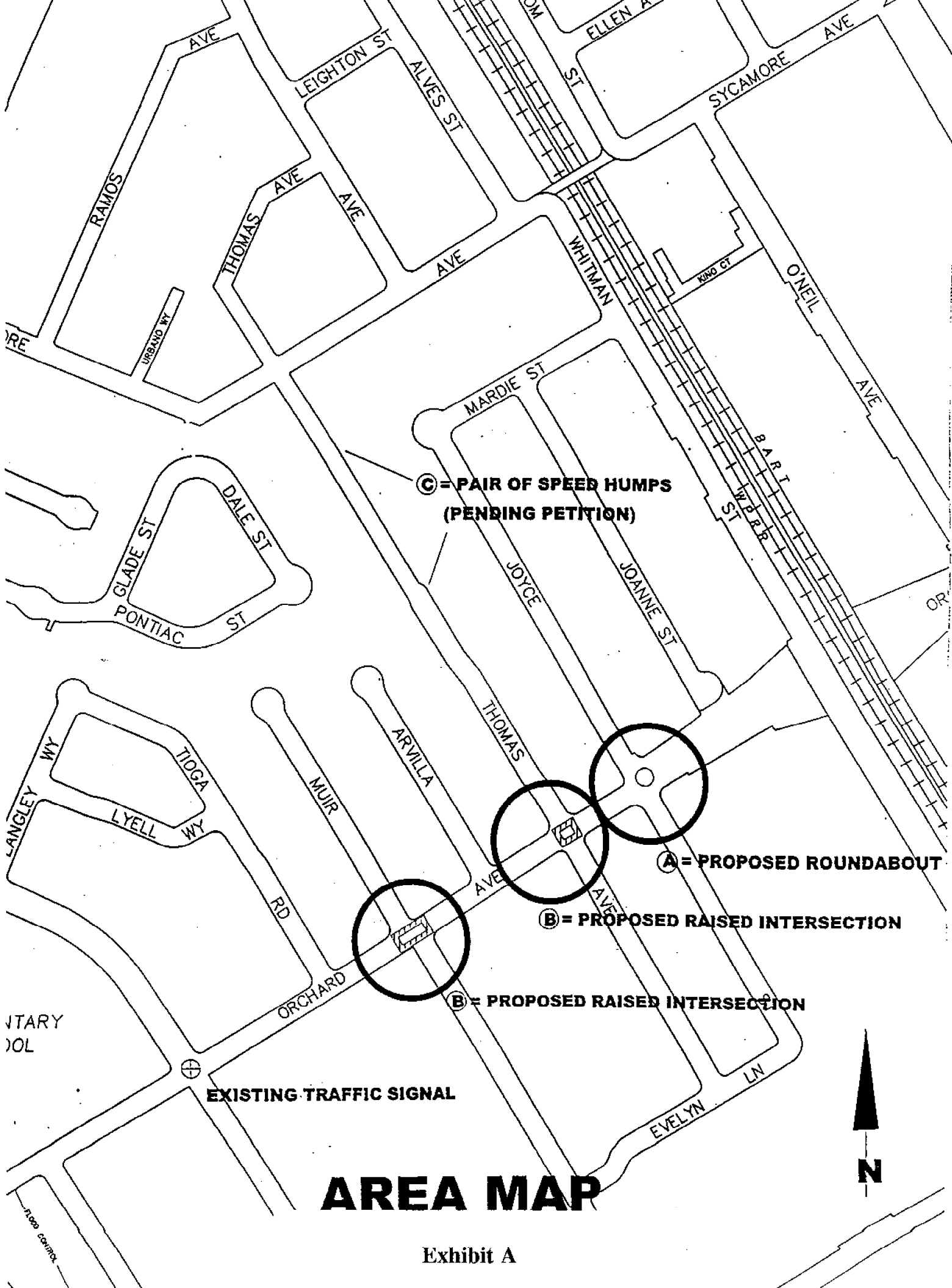


Exhibit A

Exhibit B

